Implementation of PURA scheme

112. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) Scheme is being implemented in 7 States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government will extend this scheme to Tamil Nadu as well?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) scheme is presently being implemented in 7 States *viz.* Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh on pilot basis.

(c) The Government would be considering the case of Tamil Nadu also for extension of the scheme along with that of other States when based on the experience of these pilot, projects the scheme is extended to other States.

Bio-Diesel produced from 'Jatropha' seeds

†113. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action to develop bio-diesel produced from 'Jatropha' seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum to alternative fuel estimated to be produced every year; and

(d) the details of public sector oil companies interested to promote 'Jatropha' farming by way of giving subsidy and loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Rural Development has been identified as the nodal ministry for launching the National Mission on Bio-Diesel as recommended in the Planning

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.